

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus and method for detecting water leakage in a washing machine, and for controlling a main inlet valve accordingly, are provided. The apparatus includes a leakage container for accumulating leaking water; and a leakage detector for detecting an accumulation of leaking water in the leakage container. The method includes steps of supplying water to a tub; determining whether a water leakage condition exists; and shutting off the supply of water to the tub, if it is determined that a water leakage condition exists.